

2-2-2009

# The Daily Gamecock, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2009

University of South Carolina, Office of Student Media

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## Weather

TODAY  
HIGH 65°



TONIGHT  
LOW 38°



TOMORROW  
HIGH 49°



## Inside ▶▶▶

### SPORTS



The Gamecocks pull it off again, this time in Lexington, Ky. with a 78-77 win over the Wilcats.

See page 10

### THE MIX



Jimmy Gilmore gives the hurricane documentary four out of five stars.

See page 7

### VIEWPOINTS

Shouldn't producers take care of product safety instead of placing the burden to local business owners?



**PAUL BOWERS**  
Second-year print journalism student

See page 6

## Online Exclusive



### "Notes from the Sports Desk"

Join Sports Editor Michael Aguilar and Assistant Sports Editor Chris Cox for their weekly podcast on USC sports.

www.dailygamecock.com

# Phelps apologizes for alleged drug use

**British tabloid exposes photo of Olympic champion inhaling from bong while in Columbia**

Liz Segrist  
NEWS EDITOR

U.S. Olympic champion Michael Phelps apologized for his behavior after a photo of him inhaling from a marijuana pipe during a house party in Columbia surfaced Sunday.

The photo, which was published by the British tabloid News of the World, was reportedly taken when Phelps visited Columbia in November, during which time he received a standing ovation from the crowd during a USC football game.

One of Phelps's agents released a statement in which Phelps apologized for his actions.

"I engaged in behavior which was regrettable and demonstrated bad judgment," Phelps said. "I'm 23 years old and despite the successes

I've had in the pool, I acted in a youthful and inappropriate way, not in a manner people have come to expect from me. For this, I am sorry. I promise my fans and the public it will not happen again."

The publication did not actually allege that Phelps smoked pot, it did, however, say that is what the pipe is used for. Phelps did not dispute the authenticity of the picture.

Student Body President Andrew Gaeckle said he knows Phelps has been in trouble before, such as his DUI in 2004, and he said "as a public figure, I wish he'd act as though he has some responsibilities to uphold."

However, Gaeckle said he knows individuals are in charge of their own actions.

"At the same time, individuals are who they are. He does activities at his own risk and if that's something he's OK with that is his choice," said the fourth-year international studies student. "However, smoking marijuana is illegal and in that sense

it's right he got caught.

Phelps should not lose the eight gold medals he won in the Beijing Games at the 2008 Olympics, though he could lose money from his sponsors.

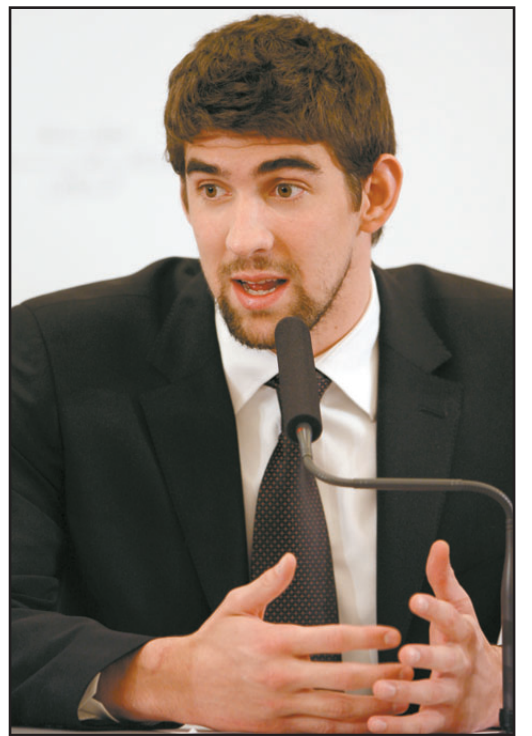
The U.S. Olympic Committee selected Phelps as the group sportsman of the year and said it was "disappointed in the behavior recently exhibited by Michael Phelps," according to The Associated Press. "That said, we realize that none among us is perfect. We hope that Michael can learn from this incident and move forward in a positive way."

Meg Chieffe, a third-year accounting student, said she thinks the attention directed at the incident is deserved.

"He's supposed to be a role model for kids," she said. "Stuff like this always gets blown up."

Chieffe said he should be held to higher standards than many people, due to his status.

PHELPS • 4



Hassan Ammar / The Associated Press

Phelps, seen here at a press conference in Saudi Arabia, publicly apologized after a picture of him inhaling from a pipe surfaced.

## GSA, SG find middle ground

*Students compromise, await administrative approval on plan*

Liz Segrist  
NEWS EDITOR

Graduate Student Association and Student Government members met Sunday at 12:30 p.m. to reach a conclusion regarding graduate student representation on campus.

However, the results won't be made public until after they meet with USC administration later this week.

SG Chief Justice Cassidy Evans removed the injunction yesterday that she enforced Jan. 30, which was created to halt the "efforts to form separate representation for graduate

students," from SG.

Evans, a fourth-year international studies student, said she enforced the injunction to deal with the apparent unrest between the organizations.

"I was just reading The Daily Gamecock articles and the comments that followed and it was all very negative," she said. "As student leaders, more is expected from us and this is something we can fix. So, I created a situation to force the issue and bring people together."

The injunction prevented either group from doing anything regarding the GSA creating their own representation before both GSA and SG representatives had a chance to meet and discuss the situation.

Graduate Student Association President Reed Curtis, a third-year higher education and student affairs graduate student, said the meeting went very well.

"We all understand that the issue is about helping students and we all want to do the right thing," Curtis said. "The negative tone that existed before was both unfortunate and unnecessary."

Student Body President Andrew Gaeckle said he thinks the injunction was the right step to take at the time.

"We were all able to sit down together and talk about our issues, rather than having the administration get involved," said the fourth-

INJUNCTION • 4



Kara Rooche / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Firefighters respond to a second-floor fire at the Booker T. Washington building across from Blatt P.E. Center Friday.

## Campus fire cause under investigation

*Class locations move after incident, students escape without injury*

Kara Apel & Liz Segrist  
STAFF WRITERS

The cause of Friday's fire in the Booker T. Washington building is still unknown.

Media Relations Director Margaret Lamb said the cause of the fire is under investigation.

"It will be about a week before the tests are finished that show the cause of the fire," Lamb said.

Although there were about three theatre classes going on at the time of the fire, Columbia Deputy Fire Chief Aubrey Jenkins said there were no injuries and that "everybody did get out."

The fire that forced the evacuation of 50 students and employees began at 10:46 a.m. and was extinguished at 11:46 a.m. according to

officials. Jenkins said the blaze began on a second floor room of the building, but it was contained there.

He said although they do not know the cause as of now, the fire began from what he said sounded like a "popping sound" in the building.

The classes that took place in the classrooms, which were damaged by the fire, have all been moved to different locations.

"Right now classes have been moved indefinitely," Lamb said.

Adrienne Lee, a second-year theater student, said she was walking from class when the fire started.

"I saw the window and flames were coming out," Lee said after calling 911.

Lee said most of the people in the building had no idea what was going on inside until a fire alarm was pulled.

Comments on this story? E-mail  
gamecocknews@sc.edu

### Class Location Changes

#### Opportunity Scholars Program courses:

MATH 122B.003 moved to McMaster 310  
ENGL 285C.001 moved to Wardlaw 109  
ENGL 102C.001 moved to 513 Pickens (ROTC Armory) 203  
ENGL 102C.002 moved to 300 Main B102  
ENGL 102C.003 moved to 300 Main B102  
MATH 141B.001 moved to 300 Main B102

#### Theater courses:

THEA 240.001 to 300 MAIN B103

THEA 270.001 TO 300 MAIN B111  
THEA 526.001 TO SWGN 2A24  
THEA 588.001 TO BPEC 135  
THEA 777.001 TO 300 MAIN B102  
THEA 240.002 TO 300 MAIN B111  
THEA 280.001 TO WMBB 124  
THEA 370.001 TO BA 401  
THEA 581.001 TO BPEC 110  
THEA 741B.001 TO BPEC 110  
THEA 372.001 TO 300 MAIN B102  
THEA 571.001 TO HU 214  
THEA 578.001 TO BPEC 110

— Information from Media Relations

## Students judge commercials in Ad Bowl



Keri Goff / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Students graded advertisements during the Super Bowl Sunday night as part of Ad Bowl VI, run by Bonnie Drewniany, an associate professor in the School of Journalism and Mass Communications who taught an honors Super Bowl advertising course. The ads were judged on three categories: persuasiveness, brand identity and likeability. Creators of the winning commercial will be invited to visit USC in April to receive the Cocky Award for best Super Bowl commercial. The team will share background about the commercial production and Cocky will present the award to the creative team.





CAROLINA BRIEFS



- The Women's Club Volleyball Team will be hosting their spring tournament on Saturday Feb. 7 at the Strom Thurmond Wellness and Fitness Center. There will be teams from around the southeast including, Auburn, Georgia, Central Florida, Clemson, Davidson and Georgia Southern. Come out and support your fellow gamecocks as they take on these teams. Play begins at 9 a.m. Saturday and will run all day until around 7 p.m. Hope to see you there.
- EMPOWER will be hosting a drop-in from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Please feel free to come by and learn about the mission of EMPOWER and the upcoming activities we have planned. For more information please visit our table in the Russell House today.
- Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. present The Pretty Poodle Book Club. We will discuss "A Raisin in the Sun" by Lorraine Hansberry. The event will occur Feb. 2 at 7 p.m. in Russell House, room 203. For more information contact: Natasha Hopkins at hopkinn1@mailbox.sc.edu or Caitlin Hunt at huntca2@mailbox.sc.edu.

THIS DAY IN

# History

## February 2

- 1847:** First Donner Party member dies.
- 1848:** Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo is signed.
- 1876:** National League of baseball is founded.
- 1882:** James Joyce is born.
- 1887:** Groundhog Day is celebrated for the first time at Gobbler's Knob in Punxsutawney, Penn.
- 1880:** First electric streetlight installed.
- 1912:** First stuntman.
- 1923:** Leaded gasoline goes on sale.
- 1949:** United States rejects proposal for conference with Stalin.
- 1962:** First U.S. Air Force plane crashes in South Vietnam.

— Information from history.com  
— Compiled by News Editor Liz Segrist

## PIC OF THE DAY



Chad Simmons / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Alan Goodman, a hotel, restaurant and tourism management student, watches the Superbowl from the Roost with his roommates. They rooted for the Steelers.

### Local

After more than eight years of legal skirmishing, a trial is scheduled to open Wednesday in a lawsuit filed by animal welfare groups alleging that Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus routinely abuses its performing elephants.

The plaintiffs — including the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and the Animal Welfare Institute — allege that trainers' use of sharp tools called bullhooks and the prolonged use of chains on the Asian elephants add up to an egregious violation of the federal Endangered Species Act.

They seek an order from U.S. District Court in Washington, D.C., halting these practices, which some activists hope would force Ringling Bros. to give up elephants altogether.

The non-jury trial before U.S. District Judge Emmet Sullivan is expected to last three weeks.

Ringling Bros. and its parent company, Feld Entertainment, have defended themselves aggressively since the suit was filed in 2000, contending their treatment of all circus animals is state-of-the-art.

Circus officials said government regulations permit use of chains. They say the elephants are chained in place at night to keep them from foraging their companions' food, and during train rides to prevent sudden weight shifts that might derail their freight car.

### National

As South Carolina's governor and the people in charge of employment bicker over job statistics, it's easy to be shocked by the few numbers that aren't in dispute: 207,000 people out of work in a state with the nation's third-highest jobless rate.

But as officials jab during news conferences, in press releases and on television, the numbers that remain in contention deserve a bit more explaining.

Among them: How many job prospects exist in the state suffering from a 9.5 percent unemployment rate, and how to pay back federal loans that keep unemployment checks flowing?

A political fight between Gov. Mark Sanford and the Employment Security Commission, the agency in charge of ensuring people look for work and get unemployment checks, contributes to the confusion. Sanford has been assailing the commission for what he believes is a lack of detail in its collection of data about who is losing jobs. He has set a Feb. 9 deadline to get that information, or else he will fire the three commissioners. His accusation that the commission is inept ramped up after employment officials said money to pay unemployment checks would run out much faster than expected. For checks to continue being cut to the increased number of people out of work, the agency said South Carolina needed more than \$300 million in federal loans to cover payments through March.

### World

**BAGHDAD** — Allies of Iraq's U.S.-backed prime minister appeared Sunday to have made gains in the provincial elections, rewarding groups credited with reining in insurgents and militias, according to unofficial projections.

Initial results from Saturday's landmark voting are not expected for days. But reports by Iraqi media and interviews by The Associated Press suggest candidates backing Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki had strong showings in the crucial Shiite heartland in southern Iraq.

If the indications prove true, it would strengthen al-Maliki's hand ahead of national elections later this year and reflect a shift away from the more religious parties dominating the country.

Nationwide turnout was 51 percent, said Faraj al-Haidari, the election commission chairman. It ranged from 40 percent in the Sunni-dominated Anbar province in western Iraq to 65 percent in the Salahuddin province, which includes the hometown of Saddam Hussein.

Final figures were not yet ready for the Baghdad area, but al-Haidari said initial reports placed it at about 40 percent.

Al-Maliki's supporters appeared to hold the lead in many areas of the south, according to Iraq's private Al-Sharqiya television.

— The Associated Press



## CAROLINA BRIEFS

The USC community wants to know what your organization has going on this week, and The Daily Gamecock wants to help you spread the word. If your organization has an upcoming meeting or event you want publicized, contact [gamecocknews@sc.edu](mailto:gamecocknews@sc.edu) or stop by our office in the Russell House, room 333.

"Carolina Briefs" submissions should include the time, place, name and a description of the meeting or event, as well as a contact person for any questions. The description shouldn't exceed 50 words. Submissions should be sent no later than 5:30 p.m. two days before publication. The Daily Gamecock reserves the right to edit, condense or hold any submission.

## Townhomes are Filling Up Fast!



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# FEBRUARY 2

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BALLROOM

8 PM



# GOT FILM?

INTEREST MEETING \* FEB 3 \* 8PM \* RH ROOM 303

February 5th - 8th in the Russell House Theater

CHANGELING

Nick and Nora's Infinite Playlist

6 pm  
9 pm

# Acoustic Cafe

February 3rd • 9:30pm • RH Starbucks



**PHELPS • Continued from 1**

“I think he should since so many people look up to him and because of his accomplishments,” Chieffe said. “If he’s going to do that stuff he at least shouldn’t let himself get caught.”

David Howman, the World Anti-Doping Agency executive director, said an athlete can only be punished if a positive test occurs during competition, according to The Associated Press.

“We don’t have any jurisdiction,” Howman said. “It’s not banned out of competition. It’s only if you test positive in competition.”

Phelps has never tested positive during competition.

Phelps’s teammate Dara Torres said although she doesn’t approve of Phelps’s actions, she understands the strain of being in the spotlight.

“When you’re recognizable, you’re looked up to as a role model,” Torres said to the Associated Press. “He is recognizable and everything you do gets looked at and picked apart. I guess that’s the price of winning 14 Olympic medals.”

To see the picture from Britain’s News of the World visit our Web site at [www.dailygamecock.com](http://www.dailygamecock.com).

— The Associated Press contributed to this report.

Comments on this story? E-mail [gamecocknews@sc.edu](mailto:gamecocknews@sc.edu)

**INJUNCTION • Continued from 1**

year international studies student. “We definitely took a positive step with this.”

Evans said she agrees that the meeting was very productive because “everyone came in with open minds and the chance for a clean slate.”

Curtis said he supports Evans’s decision to create an injunction.

“Cassidy made the right decision,” he said. “It came as a surprise, but a good surprise. It definitely had a purpose and she was right on with it.”

The Daily Gamecock will keep you updated as the situation unfolds.

Comments on this story? E-mail [gamecocknews@sc.edu](mailto:gamecocknews@sc.edu)

# SC coastal town struggles to stay afloat

*Atlantic Beach faces infrastructure issues, residents dispute solutions*

Jeffrey Collins  
*The Associated Press*

**ATLANTIC BEACH** — Every day she can, Jannie Isom walks a couple of hundred yards from her home for some of the best Atlantic views along the 60 miles of beach that make up South Carolina’s Grand Strand.

Not a single building obstructs the shore as she strolls the three blocks of Ocean Boulevard that parallel the water. Looking back are weathered one-story houses and vacant lots. One house has iron burglar bars on the windows facing the ocean.

Atlantic Beach looks frozen in time. On a quiet, chilly gray day, Isom can almost hear the soulful sounds of Marvin Gaye, the Drifters and Otis Redding roll over the dunes and picture summer lovers gliding across beachfront patios like they did 50 years ago, when segregation was the law and the place nicknamed “The Black Pearl” became a leading ocean resort for blacks up and down the East Coast.

The roughly 1/4-square mile town doesn’t look much different than in its heyday, just more run-down. That sets it apart from most of the Grand Strand, where towering beachfront hotels nestle against neon restaurants and brightly lit attractions.

Roads and property lines drawn up under segregation have left Atlantic Beach physically isolated from its oceanfront neighbors. It connects to U.S. Highway 17, the main drag along the Grand Strand. All other roads are blocked on both ends and fences mark the town line on both sides from the beach to the highway, effectively making the town a cul-de-sac facing the ocean and surrounded by North Myrtle Beach, which has almost 40 times the population.

In its isolation, Atlantic Beach is dying. Taxes are high, and the town contracts out all major services except its police force. Its single biggest



Mary Ann Chastain/ The Associated Press

**Jannie Isom, 65, of Atlantic Beach, talks about the community that she has lived in for 40 plus years. Property owners in Atlantic Beach want to save their town, leaders can’t reach compromise.**

taxpayer, The Crazy Horse strip club, paid its 2009 levy early to keep the town from laying off its handful of employees as it struggles under hundreds of thousands of dollars in unpaid court judgments. The six-seat zoning board has one member.

“I think there’s a future here. I’ve thought that for a number of years,” said Isom, 65, who moved here decades ago to run a novelty shop with her husband and to raise four kids, all of whom have moved away. “We just need to get the right people in place to make it work.”

Many of the 390 residents say they want to save the town from fading away entirely or getting swallowed in a merger with the surrounding city. Atlantic Beach sits decaying, however, while decisions on the way forward keep stalling as old-timers and newcomers quarrel over key decisions, including how to pay off the town’s debt and whom to hire as city manager.

For Isom and others, the fight over this relic of segregation — still more than 80 percent African-American — is a question of history and black achievement. Just ask John Sketers, 73, whose parents opened a restaurant in Atlantic Beach when he was a teenager in 1952. He came back 40 years ago, serving as a town councilman for about half that time.

“I want to prove to people in general that we are capable of maintaining and operating a city just as well as anyone else,” Sketers said.

On the other side are people like

Donnell Thompson, voted into council a year ago. The 50-year-old black businessman fell for Atlantic Beach, moving here two years ago because he felt he could put his money, earned by leasing buildings to health care firms, back into an area where the majority of the people are black to help it thrive again.

The old guard’s way of thinking is keeping that from happening, he said.

“Atlantic Beach as you once knew it will never be the same. Clearly a lot of land has changed hands. That alone has changed the landscape,” Thompson said. “I think it can be a great place to live on the Grand Strand. There’s a lot of culture, there’s a lot of history there. But that’s then and this is now.”

Thompson, other newer arrivals and people who have fallen out of favor with those who helped charter Atlantic Beach in 1966 often clash with pioneers like Sketers. Atlantic Beach is so evenly split that the four-person Town Council frequently stalls over 2-2 votes. The last mayoral election in 2007 was decided by one vote, and the result was mired in legal challenges for more than a year until a recent revote that elevated a councilwoman to mayor.

Retha Pierce, sworn in Jan. 20, urged the council to put aside past differences and renounce policies that she said “sell off our property, incur more debt and put our charter at risk.”

“We’re here today because God has a purpose and a plan for Atlantic Beach. No power on the Earth can stop this town’s rise

from despair,” she said.

Not that the rancor subsided. On Wednesday, eight days after she took office, Pierce was arrested at town hall, charged with disorderly conduct and trespassing after authorities said she argued with officials over getting an office and refused to leave.

What became Atlantic Beach started out in the 1930s as two tracts of oceanfront land bought by a black man named George Tyson, who invited other blacks working in Myrtle Beach to spend their days off at one of the few beaches in the Southeast not reserved for whites under Jim Crow laws.

Tyson eventually couldn’t afford the land, and sold it a decade later to a group of blacks in North and South Carolina who split the property into lots for hotels, nightclubs and summer homes. After World War II, many black doctors, lawyers and other professionals flocked to the beach, joined by former soldiers who had lived years earlier in temporary housing as they built an Air Force base.

There were bumper cars, a merry-go-round, a Ferris wheel and jukeboxes. Restaurants and stores lined the streets. “This was the destination for black people,” Sketers said.

When Jim Crow started dying in the 1960s, vacationers could stay at the bigger, more modern hotels and play at the amusement parks long closed to blacks. The luster of The Black Pearl began to fade.

“Once it became integrated, Atlantic Beach began to not go forward any more,” Sketers said.

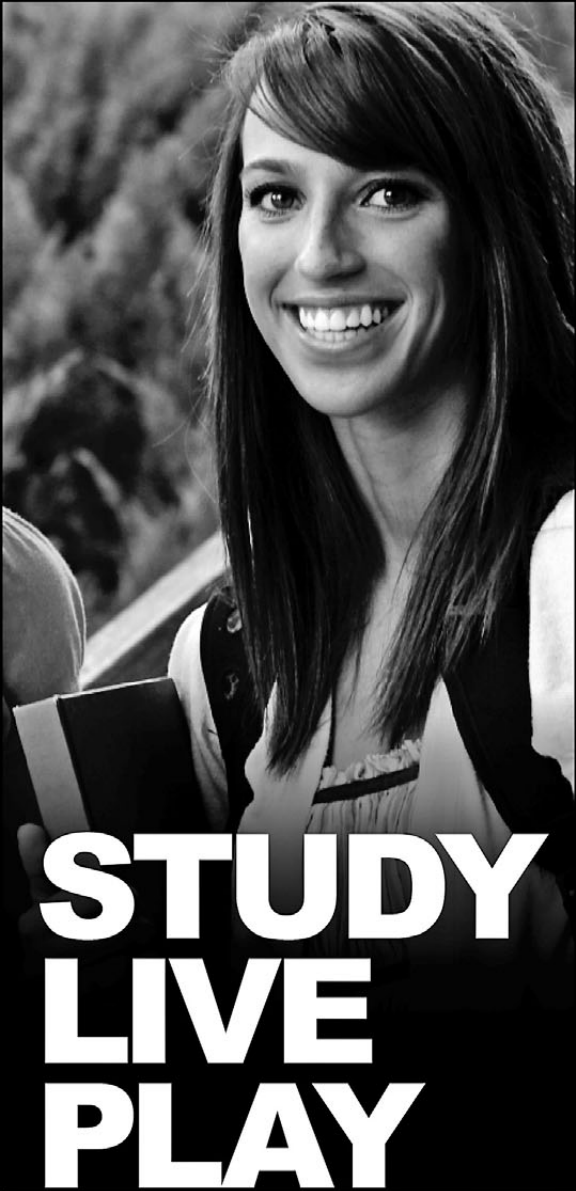
Absentee landowners let their properties crumble, corruption moved in. A former town councilman is spending life in federal prison for running a 20-year conspiracy to sell marijuana and cocaine in the town.

There’s been talk for several years of state lawmakers passing a bill to let the secretary of state dissolve the town charter.

That couldn’t come soon enough for Amy Breunig. She owns about a dozen lots in the town, including the Atlantic Inn. Almost three years ago, a columnist in the local newspaper did a glowing profile about her fighting for Atlantic Beach’s future by purchasing and restoring rundown hotels and other structures. She’s still building. But she’s ready for the town to die.

“It no longer has the ingredients to be a town. No police chief, barely any police officers, no trash service, no water service, no fire service. What does it have that makes it a town?” asked Breunig, 30, who is white and lives a short distance away in North Myrtle Beach.

“The past has been used as a crutch to keep this going. The heyday is gone. It’s not coming back. It’s time for this town to go.”



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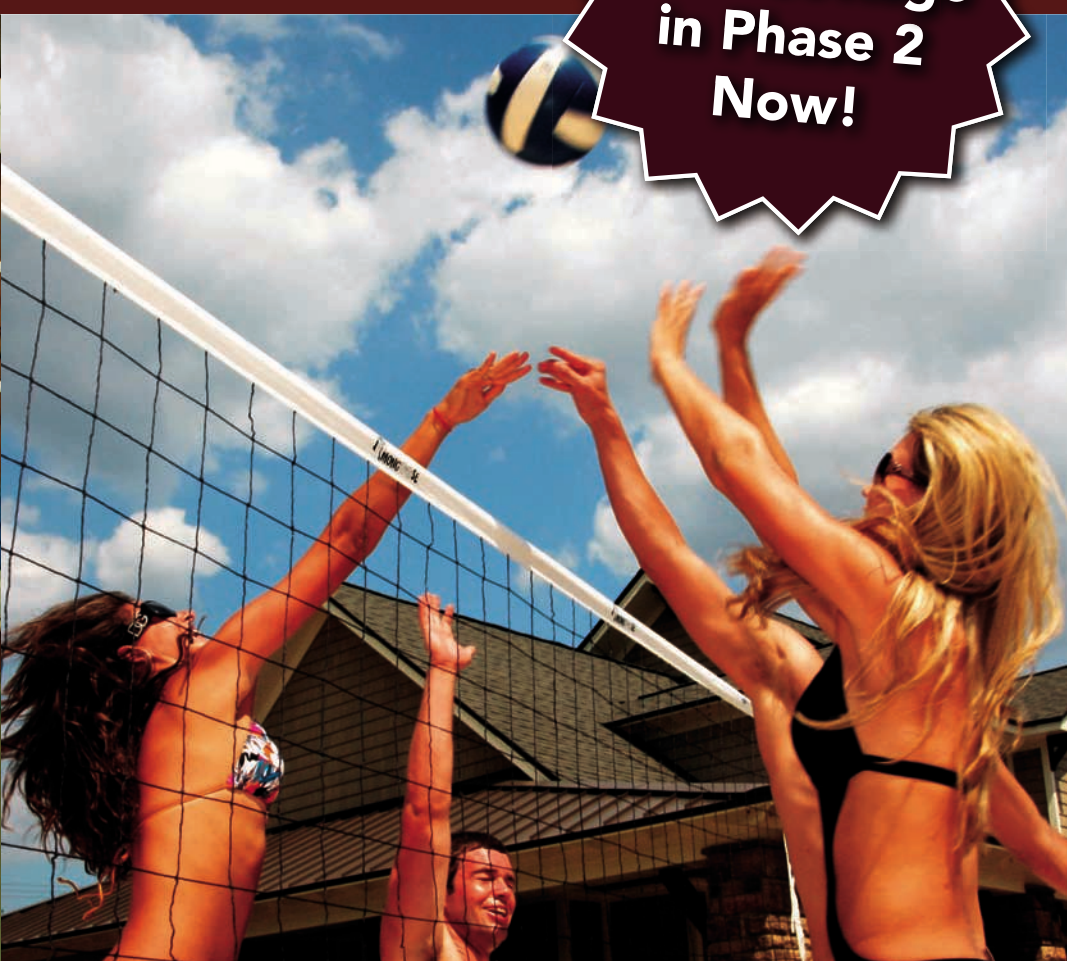
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Super Bowl parties point to high spirits

Even in trying times, celebration with friends should not be neglected

Did anyone else notice the significance of last night's coin toss?

Last night the media finally got beyond the go-to economic crisis coverage, and instead we saw celebrity performers in a lavish show with expensively entertaining commercials in between. We wasted money on greasy pizza and cheap



AMANDA DAVIS  
Third-year English student

beer and surrounded our television sets (for the luckiest, the high-definition big screens) and let ourselves go into an awesomely unproductive night of pure American entertainment.

Before the game started, I already knew it was a success. The State ran a headline in Sunday's issue, "NBC sells out Super Bowl ads for record \$206M," and instead of getting angry that in these hard economic times corporations are throwing millions of dollars at spots, I was absolutely thrilled.

Part of me was worried that the station would trim up the spots, or that companies would sit on the bench this year trying not to "waste" money on the hype of Super Bowl commercials. While the article was quick to jump on the anti-spending bandwagon, I find it a breath of fresh air that millions of dollars are going into the economy for the purpose of enticing more spending.

Look, I understand that people aren't doing so hot right now, and it has nothing to do with all those bills burning a hole in our pockets. But for once, ignore the media hype.

When every article you read or every commercial and news slot you watch lingers on the idea that you should be hiding all of your money in a secret vault and start living on discount bread and butter, the economy only gets worse. We need big spending from the people who can afford it, and we need consumers to put their money in things that are worth their while.

And just as much as we need these things to encourage a little economic boost, we need them for ourselves as well. I'm not going to say that none of you reading this have been hit by the recession. I myself have seen the firsthand effects of companies throwing in the towel for bankruptcy, the self-employed losing hundreds of thousands of dollars and good working people being laid off. Many of you are finding yourselves in similar circumstances.

But this is why we need to let ourselves sit back and enjoy the things that surround us with good friends and good memories, even if it means you jumping up and down cursing up a storm for a few hours. So if you have the time, enjoy it. If you have the money, don't hide it in the back of your wallet. And don't be afraid to keep living your life.



PLEADING THE FIRST  
New testing law still unfair

His House, thrift stores nationwide could be hurt by lead regulations

His House of Columbia is in the clear for now ... sort of.

The non-profit ministry for alcoholic and homeless men is funded entirely by sales at its four thrift store locations. Thanks to a poorly worded regulation from the Consumer



PAUL BOWERS  
Second-year print journalism student

Product Safety Commission, the management finds itself in a needless catch-22.

Effective Feb. 10, the law sets new limits on lead and phthalates in children's products, including toys, cribs and clothing. Great. Nobody wants to poison the children.

The messy part is the enforcement. Under the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act, sellers are being held responsible for the safety of their products. Originally, this meant getting everything tested and certified, an expensive process. The

commission announced Friday that the testing requirement would be deferred by one year and that thrift and consignment shops would be exempt from testing rules.

But the limits still stand. The Rev. Roger Weaver, His House's director, is in a predicament. He has no way of guessing the chemical makeup of donated children's goods, and testing is not a feasible option. He said the testing equipment rents for about \$600 per day, a bit steep for his stores.

"The question is: Do you want to take the chance that you would be prosecuted for trying to sell baby clothes?" he said.

Mr. Weaver's situation is absurd on a number of levels. For starters, why are retailers being held responsible for product safety? In principle, shouldn't the manufacturers bear that burden? Grocery stores, for instance, have to cooperate with recalls, but they need not test peanut butter for salmonella.

The injustices extend from there. His House provides beds and meals to homeless men, along with rehabilitation for alcoholics. Any drop in funds can affect those services.

And what of all the

used children's products that could be taken out of circulation? If His House stopped selling these goods, how many perfectly usable items would wind up in landfills?

"I think the situation's gonna be detrimental to a lot of people who are on fixed incomes or have no income," Weaver said.

His House stores are not the only ones in a tight spot. Secondhand shops nationwide — especially children's consignment stores — stand to lose a collective fortune. The same federal government that's spending \$700 billion to save our banks could damage a business sector that's vital in the lower tax brackets.

With a few strokes of the pen, disaster can be averted. Responsibility for product safety should be placed solely on the manufacturers, eliminating redundant testing at the retail level.

The sentiment behind the CPSIA is noble. Consumers should be able to purchase products for their children with the assurance of safety. But certain precautions are not worth taking.

The commission has a week to fix the wording. Let's write some letters.

Gambling hurts self, country

Even innocent sports bets show irresponsibility during economic crisis

Americans can't afford to be gambling their money away.

With the passing of Super Bowl XLIII last night, it is certain that several people are wondering what they are going to do now that they



RACHEL WRIGHT  
Third-year English student

have to pay Billy Bob \$1000 they don't have.

According to the National Council on Problem Gambling, there are 2.3 million compulsive gamblers in the U.S. This doesn't include the thousands more people who only gamble on certain occasions like March Madness or the Super Bowl. Many experts expect the number of compulsive gamblers will only continue to rise as the economy continues to remain in a state of crisis.

But the question is: Why? It is utterly absurd that more people would begin to make risky

bets during a time when economic security is so uncertain. I understand that the odds of winning are 50-50, but at the same time, those odds are just not large enough for someone to justify throwing thousands of dollars down the toilet — especially now.

This is money, cold hard cash, moolah. This is not like telling your friend that if the Steelers lose you'll run through the Horseshoe naked. This money is something for which our families, and often we ourselves, have to work hard, in order to pay our tuition and electricity bills. So why are there intelligent human beings doing something as irrational as betting their entire family's savings on one stupid basketball game?

I understand that gambling is an addiction, and I also understand that most people want to make as much money as they can by doing as little work as they can. That would be ideal, right? Minimal work and lots of money? However, the world doesn't work that way. So many people toil day after day in jobs that require long

hours or great physical demands, and many of these hardworking people participate in gambling. This is foolish.

Our nation needs to begin weaning this society off the breast of "get rich quick schemes." The government needs to find a different way to fund education than through lottery ticket sales. They also need to require compulsive gamblers to go to Gamblers Anonymous and put them on probation — just like someone who gets arrested for DUI. By cracking down on gambling, I think people would be able to truly value the ideal of hard work and hard-earned money.

I am not trying to claim that eliminating gambling will cure greed, divorce and hunger, but I am telling you that gambling is a serious problem. It should be treated with more harshness. So, next time the Colts play the Patriots or the Suns play the Bulls, remember that running around the Horseshoe naked could be humiliating, but at least you'll still have that hundred bucks in your pocket.

The Daily Gamecock

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IN OUR OPINION

Phelps photos reveal nothing extraordinary

Take out the high-profile name, and it's just another Crime Report item: A 23-year-old was found in possession of marijuana paraphernalia at an off-campus apartment.

But substitute "Michael Phelps" for that anonymous 23-year-old, and it's an international sensation. Our fair city is now the scene of the latest celebrity gossip story.

The same question always comes up in situations like this: Does it matter?

In short: No. In the grand scheme of things, this is just another busted 20-something.

Famous as he is, Michael Phelps is not an authority figure. Nor does his drug use affect him in his professional capacity.

Phelps is our age. Like many of us, he has some regrettable habits and probably still has some

growing up to do.

The tabloid-like fascination with this story is unfortunate. Our voyeuristic urge has been sated for another day, and yet another budding celebrity has had to deal with a public relations nightmare.

Refreshingly, Phelps apologized almost immediately after the infamous photograph surfaced. Unlike some celebrities, he does not see himself as being above the law.

That being said, he still did something stupid. What he did in Columbia that night was illegal. And besides, if you think you can use drugs in public and not get caught while the media spotlight is shining on you, you are deluded.

Michael Phelps is a fantastic swimmer. However, as his previous DUI record shows, he is not an exemplary moral model. We should stop treating him as such, and realize he still has a long way to go.

CORRECTIONS

If you see an error in today's paper, we want to know about it. E-mail us at [sagckview@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:sagckview@mailbox.sc.edu)

IT'S YOUR RIGHT

The goal of The Daily Gamecock's Viewpoints page is to stimulate discussion in the University of South Carolina community. All published authors are expected to provide logical arguments to back their views.

The Daily Gamecock encourages readers to voice opinions and offers three methods of expression: letters to the editor, guest columns and feedback on [dailygamecock.com](http://dailygamecock.com).

Letters and guest columns should be submitted via e-mail to [gamecockeditor@sc.edu](mailto:gamecockeditor@sc.edu). Letters must be 200 to 300 words in length and include the author's name, year

in school and area of study.

We also invite student leaders and USC faculty members to submit guest columns. Columnists should keep submissions to about 500 words in length and include the author's name and position. Guest columns are limited to three per author per semester.

The editor reserves the right to edit and condense submissions for length and clarity, or not publish at all.

All submissions become the property of The Daily Gamecock and must conform to the legal standards of USC Student Media.

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The Daily Gamecock is the editorially-independent student newspaper of the University of South Carolina. It is published daily during the fall and spring semesters and nine times during the summer with the exception of university holidays and exam periods. Opinions expressed in The Daily Gamecock are those of the editors or author and not those of the University of South Carolina. The Board of Student Publications and Communications is the publisher of The Daily Gamecock. The Department of Student Media is the newspaper's parent organization. The Daily Gamecock is supported in part by student-activity fees. One free copy per reader. Additional copies may be purchased for \$1 each from the Department of Student Media.



# Film shows honest Katrina reactions

*First-hand footage captures emotion in ‘Trouble the Water’*

Jimmy Gilmore  
STAFF WRITER

## “Trouble the Water”

★★★★ out of ☆☆☆☆  
Run Time: 90 minutes  
Director: Tia Lessin and Carl Deal  
Rating: Unrated  
See It: At the Nickelodeon Theater, 937 Main St.  
Monday at 6 & 8 p.m.,  
Tuesday at 6 & 9 p.m.,  
Wednesday at 3 & 6 p.m.

The devastation of Hurricane Katrina has been largely seen and understood from helicopters flying above the chaos, from cameras tracking the damage days later, and from the retelling of first-hand accounts.

“Trouble the Water,” which won the Grand Jury Prize for Documentary at the 2008 Sundance Film Festival, is a supreme example of what can happen when someone holds a video camera at just the right moment.

Kimberly Rivers Roberts and her husband Scott, who were forced to remain in the Ninth Ward of New Orleans without transportation out of the city, decided to film anything and everything they could to chronicle the

storm.

The results are harrowing and surreal — Scott himself remarks it seems like something out of a horror movie. The raw footage of the hours before and after the storm pack the all-too visceral punch of reality — the rising waters that force the family into their own attic and then out into the waters is both awe-inspiring and terrifying.

The documentary’s directors, Tia Lessin and Carl Deal, center the film on footage of Kimberly and Scott’s return to New Orleans, their response to the damage and their efforts to restart their lives after losing everything.

As a story of hope and rebuilding, it’s told simply and unflinchingly. The editing in the film feels largely seamless and unobtrusive, letting the story and people exist on its own.

The only time the filmmaker’s influence is too deeply felt is in their cuts to other stock news footage — namely, interviews with President Bush, FEMA officials or news correspondents. These cuts from the action feel unnecessary in a film that is otherwise driven by the struggles of a few individuals.

Lessin and Deal can’t help but give the film an ideological bent that tries to convict the powers that be for all the chaos and ruin that ensued in

the aftermath. This is a complex issue that is handled a bit too simply here. Demonizing the government seems hardly the point in this personal story of redemption.

This issue aside, “Trouble the Water” is a towering tale of the human spirit, a reminder of how anything is possible and how any storm can be weathered — both literally and metaphorically.

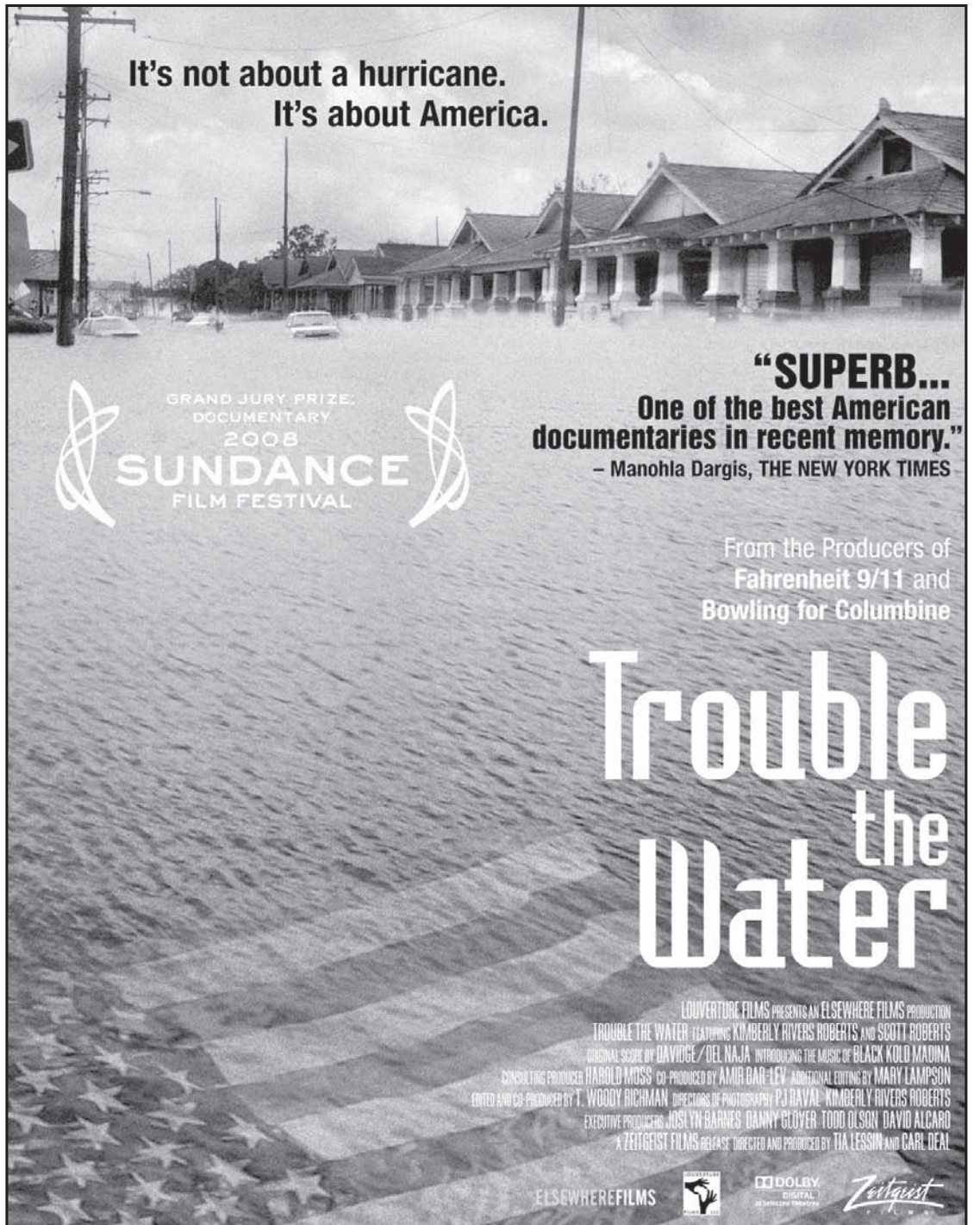
Roberts’ amateur footage is the best part of the film, providing both a fleeting anthropological look inside the culture of the Ninth Ward and also the film’s most startling images.

Lessin and Deal succeed as documentary filmmakers through the grace of their cameras, unerringly following Kimberly and Scott for a year and a half after Katrina and sparingly using the tired tradition of personal testimonials to convey the story.

The emotions of the people are felt through what they see and how they experience it, and their honest responses and willingness to be so emotive make the film wholly accessible.

“Trouble the Water” is a brisk and beautiful balance of terror and hope, about how losing everything can provide the strength to realize how wonderful life can be.

Comments on this story? E-mail [gamecockfeatures@sc.edu](mailto:gamecockfeatures@sc.edu)



Courtesy of Zeitgeist Films

“Trouble the Water” won the Grand Jury Prize for Documentary at the 2008 Sundance Film Festival and is nominated for an Academy Award in the Documentary Feature category.

# Revamped club draws crowds

Vista’s ICE features local DJs, cheap drinks to gain attention of coveted college students

Cam Byrd  
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

On a Wednesday night near the corner of Lady and Park streets, a line begins to form. As it gets closer to 10 p.m., the line wraps around the building, more than 60 feet down the block. Upon first glance it seems peculiar that such a large number of young, in vogue individuals would be all dressed up midweek. Getting into Club ICE for college night attracts many of these students and 20-somethings to wait in line.

ICE is the newest dance club in the Vista featuring local and guest DJs spinning pop, hip-hop and dance music. DJ Gldfng is a Vista and ICE staple, who often gets younger DJs featured, further invigorating and Columbia’s often overlooked music and dance scene. On Jan. 28, Alejandro Florez, a fourth-year finance student and DJ at WUSC, got time to spin to a live crowd as opposed to his typical radio listeners.

“This place just recently opened and I honestly did not see any flaws,” Florez said. “From the DJ booth it looked like people were having a great time.”

The two-story dance club has an open dance floor and raised stage with alternating multi-colored lights that heat up the scene and flash to the bass. The mirrored walls reflect dozens of lighting effects like the several disco balls hanging from the ceiling. The heat of the lights and the enthusiastic crowd contrasts the walls around the downstairs that have ice-like paneling with a frosty glow.

“It’s my first time at ICE and this club is a big improvement,” said fourth-year interdisciplinary studies student Minna Avery.

Then there’s the upstairs. With couches and lounge chairs able to seat entire parties of club-goers, it’s a place to take a breather from dancing. The open area is the gallery that overlooks the dance floor, so the action is



Cam Byrd / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Club ICE, occupying building space formerly known as Club Fusion, draws large and diverse crowds to hear DJs including fourth-year finance student Alejandro Florez.

never out of sight.

“A while ago, there was a Paris Hilton look-a-like blonde that stood over the dance floor and threw 50 ones out over the crowd,” said Christine Adams, the doorwoman on Wednesdays. “It was great watching everyone go for them, probably one of the most interesting things here.”

ICE easily boasts the best drink special of the week. Wednesday’s College Night boasts 9-cent admission and 9-cent drinks.

Don’t be expecting to sip Grey Goose Vodka or Patron Silver Tequila all night though. The reality is the specials end at midnight and the cocktails offered in the special use liquors that aren’t quite top shelf quality. But for those ICE guests who shove their way through to one of the bars, \$1 will easily get them headed

towards a strong buzz for the entire night.

“Wednesdays are our busiest day of the week,” said Valencia Goodwin, an ICE bartender who takes cash only and promises much faster service upstairs than at the downstairs bars. “The crowd is energetic and a mixed group ... sometimes they don’t want to go home,” she said.

But that doesn’t seem to be the problem at 1 a.m. when the dance floor and most of the club begins to empty.

Maybe Wednesdays are just too early to draw out a good and late college crowd, but ICE certainly has the potential to entertain.

Comments on this story? E-mail [gamecockfeatures@sc.edu](mailto:gamecockfeatures@sc.edu)

# Super Bowl ads sell for record high

NBC charges \$3 million per 30 second spot despite economy

The Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — NBC said on the eve of Sunday’s Super Bowl that it had sold the last two of the 69 advertising spots for the game, pushing total ad revenue for the event to a record \$206 million.

The network said its total of \$261 million in ad revenue for all of Super Bowl day also is a record, calling it an especially impressive feat in the middle of the economy’s steep downturn.

The Super Bowl is the premier advertising event with a U.S. audience of 100 million viewers, many of whom watch closely during game breaks for the debut of entertaining, big-budget commercials. The ads have sold for between \$2.4 million and \$3 million per 30-second slot this year.

“These advertising milestones show the power of the NFL brand and the strength of the Super Bowl as a TV property in this economic climate,” said Jeff Zucker, president and CEO of NBC Universal, a unit of General Electric Co. “The Super Bowl has become one of our country’s biggest holidays, a uniquely American day, and advertisers recognized the value in being a part of it.”

Thirty-two advertisers in all showcased their products during Super Bowl coverage.

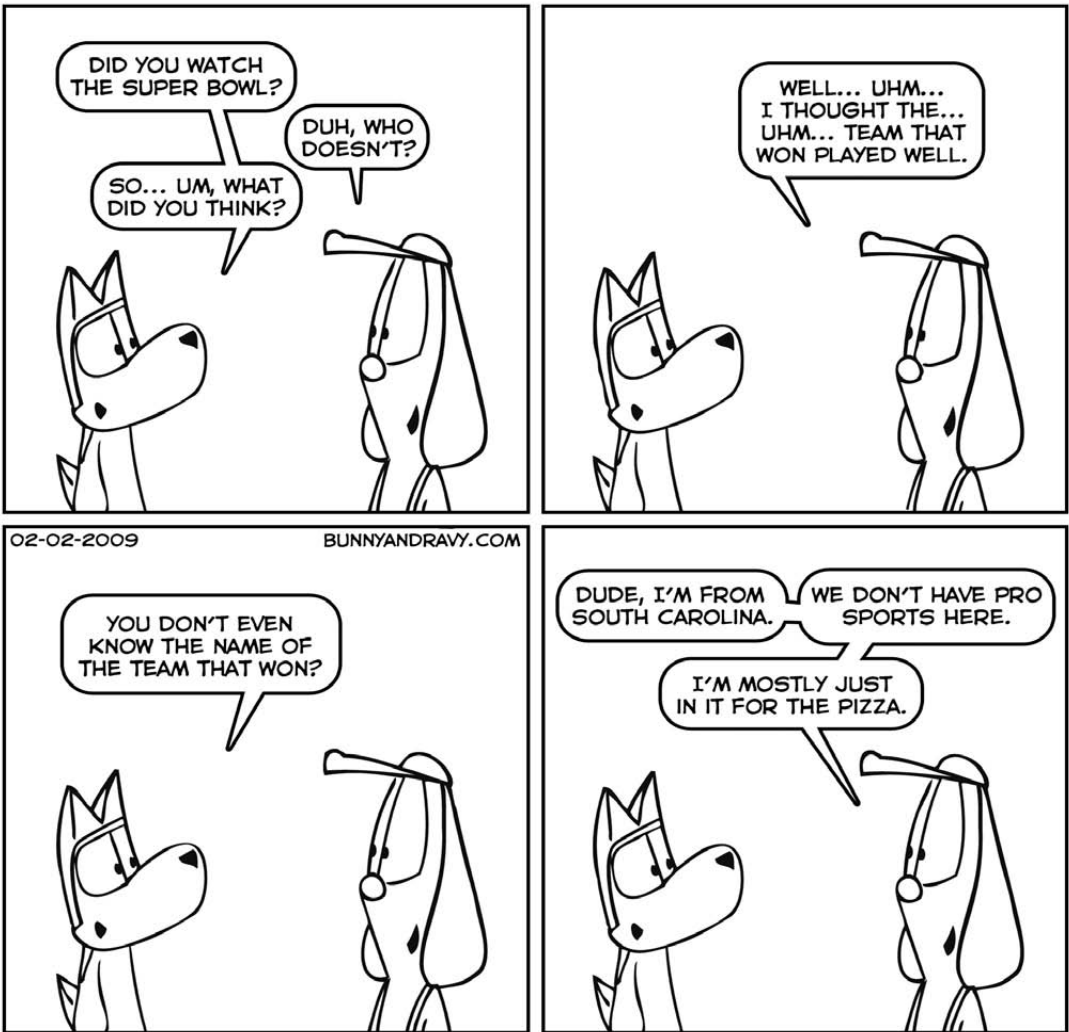
NBC said the ads featured during the game are available for viewing at Web sites including NBC.com, Hulu.com and Superbowl.com.







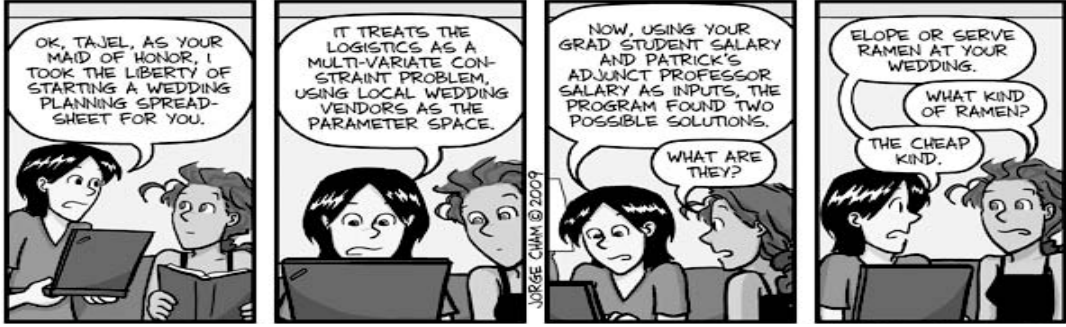
Inside the Box ♦ By Marlowe Leverette / The Daily Gamecock




Whiteboard ♦ By Bobby Sutton / The Daily Gamecock




PhD ♦ By Jorge Chan




HOROSCOPES




**ARIES** It's back to the same old same, same old: Do the work and earn the money. The good news is that you can, and the bad news is that you must. Turn it into a game so it's more fun.




**TAURUS** You're stronger now, but can you stand up to powerful opposition? Sure you can. You're stubborn. You never give up. Besides, you have friends who will help.




**GEMINI** Something you've been avoiding is lurking there in your inbox. You know what it is. There's a financial benefit to you when you get it done, so stop procrastinating.



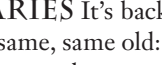
**CANCER** Friends can help you find the perfect person for the job. That applies to everything from ant eater to zebra tamer. It might even work for a soul mate, if you need one of those.



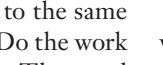
**LEO** Cast caution to the winds and forge ahead with enthusiasm. This advice pertains to your work, not to your entertainment. Follow it and you'll earn a decent living.



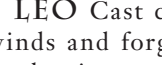
**VIRGO** When you're working with people you love, you get a lot more done. You talk about places you'd like to go and things you'd like to see. Save your money so you can.



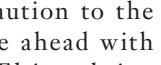
**LIBRA** You can get what you need for your home at a pretty good price, so do it. Don't wait until something breaks down. Fix it before that happens. You know what it is, too.



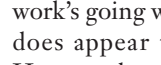
**SCORPIO** If you hang out with knowledgeable people, you get a lot smarter yourself. Some people don't talk about what they know. Then you have to watch. That's the situation now.



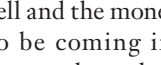
**SAGITTARIUS** The




**CAPRICORN** Your motivation is good and the path ahead is clear. You've been thinking about doing something especially romantic, and now is the time to act. Really mean it, though. This could last.



**AQUARIUS** You've been very busy lately. Make time to kick back and relax. There are plenty of quiet things to do at home \_ like taking an extra nap. Don't do that at work, however.



**PISCES** It's getting easier to bring the money in. This alleviates the stress under which you've been laboring. Every little bit helps.



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**Sudoku** By The Mephram Group 02/02/09

8	2					9	7
		3	4	6			2
	6					5	
			5	4			
		2		1		7	
			2		3		
	3						1
4		1		5	2		
7	8					3	4

**Level 1** 2 3 4

**How to Play**  
Complete the grid so each row, column AND 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9.

**Solution for 01/30/09**

7	2	1	4	5	8	6	9	3
6	8	5	7	3	9	2	4	1
4	3	9	6	1	2	7	8	5
8	5	7	9	2	3	4	1	6
3	1	2	5	6	4	9	7	8
9	6	4	8	7	1	5	3	2
5	4	3	2	8	7	1	6	9
1	7	6	3	9	5	8	2	4
2	9	8	1	4	6	3	5	7

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# THE SCENE @USC



**Brett Dennen**  
8 p.m., \$15  
Headliners, 700 Gervais St.

TODAY	TOMORROW
<b>Chuck D: Race, Rap and Reality</b> 8 p.m., free Russell House Ballroom	<b>Acoustic Café</b> 9:30 p.m., free Russell House Starbucks
<b>Trouble the Water</b> 6 and 8 p.m., \$6 Nickelodeon Theatre, 937 Main St.	<b>VerseWorks Open Mic Nite</b> 8:30 p.m., free Art Bar, 1211 Park St.
<b>9th Annual Winter Exhibition: Chesley, Williams, Wimberly, Yaghjian</b> 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., free Gallery 80808, 808 Lady St.	<b>Amen The Animal, Veara, Erison, Agnes</b> 7 p.m., \$7 The New Brookland Tavern, 122 State St.

**Crossword**

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

Brought to you by:

02/02/09

**ΔZ Sweet Caroline**

**Blood & Bone Marrow Drive**

February 5 • Russell House • 11-5pm

**ACROSS**

1 Chipper

5 Wagers

9 Wrinkly fruits

14 Royal role for Liz

15 Pearl Harbor's island

16 Mystery story?

17 Whiskey spritz

18 Eco-vineyards' product?

20 Overnight flight to Ireland?

22 Actor Lahr

23 Abnormal wobbling

25 \_ the Pooh

27 Resembling

28 Vane dir.

31 Union leader Chavez

32 Game pieces

33 Sitcom set in Georgia?

36 Comparative phrase

38 Larger and deeper fiddle

39 Some NCOs

43 Rookie emmet?

46 Rocker Ocasek

47 Cubic meter

50 TV soundstage

51 Puccini work

53 Least strict

55 Serving dish

56 Hawaiian strings

57 Embarrassed bird?

61 Song about a jacket?

63 Long way away

66 Blender setting

67 Rhythmic cadence

68 Venus de \_

69 Burst of energy

70 Caesar and Vicious

71 Fit of pique

**DOWN**

1 IBM units

2 "Telephone Line" grp.

3 Big star in canned veggies?

4 Battle cry

5 One over par

6 Work for

7 "Of \_ I Sing"

8 Chop \_

9 Big letters in Detroit

10 Superficial proficiency

11 Tablecloths and sheets

12 Spain's place

13 Nun

19 In mint condition

21 Kuwait's leader

23 Area meas.

24 Shades

26 Rink material

28 McClurg and Falco

29 Rhone tributary

30 Dazzling display

**Solutions from 01/30/09**

P	E	A	S		S	E	T	H		C	L	O	T	H		
T	O	U	T		T	R	O	Y		L	I	B	R	A		
A	N	T	E		A	I	D	E		A	M	O	U	R		
				H	E	D	G	E	O	N	E	S	B	E	T	S
C	R	E	D	O					A	S	S		S	H	H	
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## GAMECOCKS DO IT AGAIN

*Downey's floater with 3.2 seconds left lifts USC to another exciting win*

Billy Kerfoot  
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

Just 10 days after senior guard Zam Fredrick's buzzer-beating layup defeated Florida by one point, the Gamecocks (16-4) defeated No. 24 Kentucky (16-6) on their home court in similar fashion.

Junior guard Devan Downey's turnaround jumper with three seconds left lifted South Carolina to a 78-77 victory over the Wildcats, just their second win in their last 23 visits to Kentucky.

"We were really fortunate to make the last play and we were able to get the win," USC coach Darrin Horn said. "Neither team wanted to lose. Both teams played their guts out."

Downey did not have a very good first half, only scoring four points, but made up for it with 17 in the second half before making the winning shot.

Those second half points allowed Downey to finish second in points for the game, slightly behind Zam Fredrick's 24.

"I believed from day one that we had special guards," Horn said. "I knew we had enough length and athleticism. I knew we could be an NCAA team if we were committed."

The Gamecocks led for the first time with 6:50 left in the first half thanks to an 18-foot jumper by Zam Fredrick. However, USC ended up trailing at the half by one



Garry Jones / The Associated Press

**Sophomore center Austin Steed blocks Jodie Meeks' shot in the first half of Saturday's game. Steed grabbed 12 rebounds for the Gamecocks.**

when Kentucky guard DeAndre Liggins sank a three-pointer at the buzzer to put Kentucky ahead

37-36.

The Gamecocks also got lucky when, after a layup by Dominique

Archie brought USC within one, Perry Stevenson was fouled but missed two free throw shots with 29 seconds left.

Mike Holmes was able to rebound the ball for USC and, after a timeout with 22 seconds left, Devan Downey sank a jump shot with three seconds to go for the one-point victory.

"Coach said we were going for the win," Downey said. "I told my teammates that if [Kentucky] collapses on me, I will kick it out. I got a pretty good look and stepped up to make a play."

It was an ironic way for the Wildcats to lose, seeing as how they shot nearly 83 percent from the line (Perry's were the only shots missed during the entire second half) while the Gamecocks missed more than half of their free throw shots.

The victory was the team's first conference win on the road and fourth consecutive to improve their conference record to 5-2. Because of the win, the Gamecocks have become a threat to win the SEC East and make the NCAA tournament for the first time since 2004.

"There's no team on the schedule that you have to play a perfect game to beat [in the SEC]," Downey said. "The SEC is very competitive and on any given night anyone can win."

To do that, the team must win a rematch against the Florida Gators as they travel to Gainesville for Tuesday's game at 9 p.m. The game will be televised nationally by ESPN.

*Comments on this story? E-mail [sagckspt@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:sagckspt@mailbox.sc.edu)*

## Horn brings hope to USC

**Gamecocks head into mid-conference schedule with several goals still in reach**

Last week I wrote a column about how USC coach Darrin Horn and his basketball team were bringing the fun back into being a Gamecock fan.

Following Saturday's heart-stopping win at Kentucky, Horn and company are bringing something else to the University of South Carolina. They are bringing success and they are bringing it fast.

This time a year ago, Carolina was 2-5 in SEC play

and had yet to beat a team that could even hope to sniff the Top 25. Even more importantly, the Gamecocks were well out of contention for the NCAA tournament and, most likely, out of contention to even sniff the

NIT tournament.

This season is a completely different story. The Gamecocks are now in a three-way tie for the best record in the SEC East and, with the last-second wins over Kentucky and Florida, have the tie breaks for first in the Eastern division.

This means that, with important road games left against Alabama, Mississippi State and Florida and big games at home left against Kentucky and Tennessee, USC is in prime position to not only get a No. 1 seed to the SEC tournament, but a bid to the NCAA tournament.

With a win in three of any of those five remaining crucial games, Carolina could make as good of a case as any SEC team to go to the tournament with an at large bid. It has been five years since the Gamecocks went to the NCAA tournament. More importantly, it has been more than 30 years since Carolina made it past the first round in the Big Dance.

The Gamecocks have the potential to not only make it to the NCAA tournament but to make it deep into the tournament. In college basketball, one of the most important aspects of the game is great guard play. Between the unbelievable play of Devan Downey and the ever-consistent play of Zam Frederick, USC has that in spades. However, the key to success in the NCAA tournament is reliable play on the blocks.

It's hard to deny that quality big men give basketball teams a heart — they give teams something to rely on. For the last several years the Gamecocks have had plenty of guard play but lacked consistency down low. While Sam Muldrow and Mike Holmes are not your typical primetime big men, they are more than serviceable.

As long as Muldrow, Holmes and Dominique Archie can give the Gamecocks somewhat consistent play and Downey and Frederick can play at the level at which they have been then this is a team that can make it far in the NCAA tournament.

The fact of the matter is, this Gamecock team may be one of the best teams in the SEC. It may even be one of the better teams in the nation. The amazing thing to think about is there's one difference between this year's team and the team that was sitting 2-5 this time last year.

Its coach.

## Downey wins battle of premier guards

**Junior point guard gets last laugh against Kentucky's Jodie Meeks in closing minutes of SEC battle**

James Kratch  
STAFF WRITER

There were a lot of subplots heading into Saturday's Kentucky/South Carolina tilt, but in the end, the game hinged on the match-up of the top two scorers in the conference, and in the end, the advantage fell to Carolina.

Behind junior guard Devan Downey, the No. 2 scorer in the SEC, the Gamecocks defeated leading scorer Jodie Meeks and the No. 24 Wildcats 78-77 in Lexington, Downey's jumper with 3.2 seconds remaining serving as the difference.

"We just tell each other we have paid a price to be good, I tell ya'll after every game, practicing with five, nine and 11 guys pressing and no subs like we do, it kind of makes a man out of you," Downey said.

Neither player led their team in scoring. Senior guard Zam Frederick led the Gamecocks with 24 points and Patrick Patterson had a team high 28 for the Wildcats, but the statistical outputs for both transcended their effect on the outcome.

Both guards were held largely quiet in the first half, with Meeks scoring two points and Downey four after being held scoreless for the first 18 minutes of the game, but Meeks was the first to make his presence felt in the second half.

After trailing for a good part of the period Kentucky went into the locker room up 37-36. Coming out of halftime, Meeks scored eight of

UK's first 12 points, pushing the lead up to five points and forcing Horn to call a timeout to regroup.

Meeks added three more points as Kentucky (16-6, 5-2) built their lead up to 10 points, 54-44. However, USC battled back to a 58-55 deficit, and a Downey jumper cut it to a point, 58-57.

On the ensuing possession, Meeks had the ball stolen from him by Downey, who drove in for the layup, putting Carolina back on top 59-58. The two teams went back and forth until Meeks hit two free throws to tie the game 66-66 with five minutes remaining. The Wildcats briefly took the lead 68-66, only to see Carolina regain control via a shot beyond the arc from Downey.

The lead went back and forth for the remainder of the game, with Carolina regaining possession with 22 seconds remaining, trailing 77-76. Horn called timeout and drew up a play, but there was little suspense — everyone knew that Downey would be taking the shot.

And the point guard did, receiving the inbound, dribbling down the clock, before driving into the Wildcat defense and lofting a jump shot that fell through the hoop, giving USC a 78-77 lead and Downey 23 points on the day to Meeks' 20.

"I don't know if we would do that every time but tonight that was the call," Horn said.

Just more than three seconds and a half court prayer from Meeks that rimmed out later, Carolina (16-4, 5-2) had its first win at Rupp Arena since 1997, its first SEC road win of the season, a four-game winning streak, and a shot to take sole possession of first place in the SEC East against rival Florida tomorrow night in Gainesville, Fla.

"I'm just so happy for our players, this is such a big win for them, this is a group that has done



Garry Jones / The Associated Press

**Junior point guard Devan Downey scored 23 points on Saturday against the Wildcats.**

everything we have asked them to do since the day we got there and they are enjoying some fruits from that and I'm really happy for them," Horn said.

*Comments on this story? E-mail [sagckspt@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:sagckspt@mailbox.sc.edu)*

## Tennis teams hit court for ITA Tournament

**Gamecocks face off against nationally-ranked opponents in final non-conference matchups before SEC play begins**

Michael Finnegan  
THE DAILY GAMECOCK

The USC men's and women's tennis teams headed in separate directions this weekend to play in two elite tournaments as they prepare themselves for the tough SEC schedule.

On the men's side, the No. 51 Gamecocks traveled west to take on two nationally ranked foes in Athens at the ITA Kickoff Weekend. In their first

match Friday afternoon, they faced the host and No. 3 ranked Bulldogs of Georgia. Carolina would get swept by the Bulldogs 5-0, but not without a fight as the matches were closely fought.

In doubles action, UGA would get the point by winning the No. 1 doubles 8-6 and the No. 2 doubles at 9-7. Because the doubles point was already decided, the third doubles match was not completed, but UGA was winning 7-6.

In singles action, the first to fall for USC was No. 42 Diego Cubas at the top singles spot as he lost to No. 18 Nate Schnugg 6-1, 6-3. Josh Varela would put up UGA 3-0 as he defeated Ivan Machado 6-3, 7-6. Javier Garraiz would seal the match for Georgia at No. 2 singles as he beat Pedro Campos in three sets, 2-6, 6-2, 6-2.

On Saturday, the Gamecocks would rebound and defeat No. 55 Indiana 4-3. The Gamecocks would get off on the right foot as they won the doubles point. Carolina would win the doubles point at the one and two positions and the third doubles team of Jaime Cuellar and Johannes Pulsfort were up 7-4 before their match was stopped.

In singles play, Carolina would extend their lead first as Machado won in straight sets 6-3, 6-3. Cuellar would pad Carolina's lead to 3-0 as he won in



## TOURNAMENT • Continued from 10

straight sets 7-5, 7-5. However, Indiana would strike back winning the next three singles matches setting up the drama at No. 6 singles where the game would come down to Ivan Cressoni and Jonathan Schroeder. The junior would lose the first set 4-6, but would rebound to win the next two sets 6-4, 6-3 to win the point and the match for the Gamecocks.

With the win, the Gamecocks move to 4-1 on the season. They return home next weekend to start their eight match home stand.

The No. 33 Gamecock women would also split their weekend matches at the ITA National Indoors. In the first match, Carolina would lose a tough battle 4-3 against the Ohio State Buckeyes.

USC would come out strong and take home the doubles point behind the Serbian duo of seniors Natasa Vuckovic and Ana Marija

Zubori as they won at No. 1 doubles 8-1. At No. 2 doubles, USC would win 8-4 as Gira Schofield and Miljana Jovic teamed up for the victory.

In singles play, Ohio State would come out hot winning the first three singles matches that were decided. Cami Hubbs would defeat Vuckovic 6-3, 6-1 at No. 3 singles. Two other Gamecocks would also fall in straight sets at No. 5 and No. 6 singles. Suzanna Mansour would fall 6-2, 6-3 and freshmen Ashley Miller would fall 6-3, 6-4.

At No. 2 singles, junior and the No. 14 ranked singles player, Zubori would bounce back and win the first singles point for Carolina as she won 6-0, 7-5. Ohio State would claim the victory as Julie Blackmore defeated Jovic at No. 4 singles but the fourth and deciding point. Schofield would battle to three sets and beat Kirsten Flower 6-2, 3-6, 6-2.

On Sunday, the Gamecock women were in another tough battle with No. 35 VCU, but this time the Gamecocks would come out on top by a score of 4-3.

The doubles point as been a lock for the Gamecocks and that did not change on Sunday as Zubori and Vuckovic won again and this time, the No. 3 doubles team of Mansour and Miller finished first to seal the doubles point.

Carolina would be strong at the top of their lineup again as Vuckovic would bounce back from Saturday's defeat and put the Gamecocks up 2-0 as she won at No. 3 singles 6-2, 6-0. Schofield continues her strong spring campaign by winning in straight sets 6-1, 6-3 and put the Gamecocks up 3-0. The Boca Raton native, No. 71, is 6-0 this spring and has won her last 12 matches overall.

Just like the men, Carolina would drop the next three singles matches setting up some more drama at the No. 2 singles spot. Zubori would lose the first set 3-6, but would bounce back to win the second set 6-3. In the third set, she reeled off four straight points to capture the momentum and eventually the victory for the Gamecocks as she wins the third set 6-3. With the win, Zubori joins fellow teammate Schofield at 6-0 on the spring campaign.

With the win, Carolina moves to 4-2 on the year with both losses being to higher ranked opponents.

Next up for the Gamecocks is Winthrop on Feb. 11 at the USC Field House.

Comments on this story? E-mail [sagckspt@mailbox.sc.edu](mailto:sagckspt@mailbox.sc.edu)



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KD Saffron / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

The Gamecocks had an overall solid showing over the weekend in Athens, Ga.



Alan Tauber / THE DAILY GAMECOCK

The Gamecocks now sit idle until the conference championships begin in three weeks.

## Swim, dive team concludes season in frustrating defeat

Conference foes Alabama, Georgia take out brooms in sweep against Gamecocks during final meet

James Kratch  
STAFF WRITER

Freshman Lindsey Olson became the fifth Gamecock to record a qualifying personal time for the NCAA tournament, but that was about the only high point for Carolina, as both the men's and women's swim and dive teams were swept in a season-ending dual meet with Alabama and Georgia this past weekend at the Alabama Aquatic Center in Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Olson won the 500-yard freestyle with a time of 4:46.87, three seconds under the needed time to qualify for the NCAA 'B' standard, but it wasn't enough as the women fell to Georgia 211-89 and Alabama 168.66-131.33, the first loss to the Crimson Tide in five years for the women's squad.

Olson had a very strong meet overall, participating in a second place finish for the 400-yard freestyle relay team and adding a third place time in the 200-yard butterfly event.

Sophomore Claire Thompson took second place in the 1,000-yard freestyle with her season-best time of 9:58.36, bettering her career best by more than five seconds. Her twin sister Christine took fourth in the event.

The men, who lost to Georgia 197-103 and Alabama 167-131, were led in the pool by senior Kyle Cormier, who won the 200-yard individual medley (1:48.86) and the 200-yard individual freestyle (1:36.59) and added a second place finish in the 100-yard freestyle. Teammates junior Andrew Atzhorn and freshman James Crawford finished second and third behind Cormier in the 200-yard individual medley.

In diving, freshman Helen Alvey had the top finish for Carolina, placing third in the one-meter dive, while sophomore Taryn Zack finished fourth in the event and third in the three meter event. Senior Corry Christian finished fourth in the one meter event for the men.

With their regular seasons complete, the men (3-6, 0-3) and women (5-5, 1-3) are idle for rest and practice until the SEC Championships at Auburn from Feb. 18 to 21.

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